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HEREWITH

International Application No.

PCT/EP00/04385

Priority Filing Date :

26 April 2000

FOR

A METHOD FOR INSTALLING PROTECTIVE GAITER AROUND A

JOINT

Express Mail No.

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Lowell, Massachusetts October 26, 2001

BOX PCT

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

## In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-24, and please add new Claims 25-47.

A method of installing a gaiter around a joint defined between joint members the method comprising the steps of providing a range of gaiters, in which each end portion of at least one gaiter of the said gaiter range incorporates a respective single annular fitting section or channel, for use with a range of joints of different dimensions, the range of joints being greater than the range of gaiters and at least

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